

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A computer implemented method, comprising:
2 (a) causing a first print job to be transmitted to a printer, the printer
3 having at least one user input key;
4 (b) automatically displaying on the computer an image of the at least
5 one user input key while the printer is processing the first print job; and
6 (c) in response to receiving a selection of the at least one user input
7 key image, causing the printer to perform a function.

1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the printer is configured to
2 perform a first function when the key is selected by a walk-up user and step (c)
3 is performed by causing the printer to perform the first function.

1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the printer is configured to
2 respond to a selection of the key by canceling the job presently being processed
3 by the printer, and step (c) is performed by causing the printer to cancel the
4 processing of the first print job.

1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the first print job directs the
2 printer to print on media having a first set of dimensions; the printer is
3 configured to respond to a selection of the key by printing the first print job on
4 media having a different set of dimensions; and step (c) is performed by causing
5 the printer to print the first print job on media having the different set of
6 dimensions.

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the printer includes a local display
2 device for displaying information to a user and the method further comprising:
3 (d) automatically displaying on the computer an image of the display
4 device while the printer is processing the first print job.

1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein the image of the display device
2 indicates the information presently being provided by the display device.

1 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the computer is connected to the
2 printer over a network.

1 8. A server, comprising:
2 (a) means for receiving a request from a client;
3 (b) means for responding to the request by transmitting a program of
4 computer readable instructions to the client, the program for enabling the client
5 to:
6 i) use a specific printer to print a document, the printer having a user
7 input key; and
8 ii) automatically display an image of the key while the printer is
9 printing the document; and
10 iii) in response to receiving a user selection of the key image while the
11 printer is printing the document, cause the printer to perform a particular
12 function.

1 9. The server of claim 8, wherein the server is embedded in the
2 printer.

1 10. The server of claim 8, wherein the printer is configured to respond
2 to a selection of the input key while the printer is printing the document by
3 canceling the printing of the document; and wherein the function includes
4 canceling the printing of the document.

1 11. The server of claim 8, wherein the function includes causing the
2 printer to print the document on media having a particular dimension.

1 12. The server of claim 8, wherein the printer includes a local display
2 device for providing information to a walk-up user and the program is further for
3 enabling the client to:

4 iv) display an image of the local display device while the printer is
5 printing the document.

1 13. The server of claim 8, wherein the client is a personal computer
2 connected to the server over a network.

1 14. The server of claim 8, wherein the program is Web content.

1 15. A computer readable medium embodying a program of instructions
2 for causing a computer remotely connected to a printer to perform method
3 steps, the printer having at least one user input key, the method steps
4 comprising:

5 (a) transmitting a print job to the printer;
6 (b) automatically displaying on the computer an image resembling the
7 user input key only while the printer is processing the print job; and
8 (c) in response to a selection of the image, causing the printer to
9 initiate a function.

1 16. The computer readable medium of claim 15, wherein the function
2 includes canceling the print job.

1 17. The computer readable medium of claim 16, wherein the printer is
2 configured to respond to a selection of the user input key while the printer is
3 processing the print job by canceling the print job.

1 18. The computer readable medium of claim 15, wherein the printer
2 includes a local display for providing information to a walk up user and the
3 method steps further comprising:
4 (d) automatically displaying on the computer a virtual display while the
5 printer is processing the print job; and wherein the virtual display resembles the

6 local display and indicates the same information presently being indicated by the
7 local display.

1 19. The computer readable medium of claim 15, wherein the printer
2 includes at least one indicator light for indicating information to a walk-up user
3 and the method steps further comprising:

4 (d) automatically displaying on the computer an image that resembles
5 the present state of the indicator light while the printer is processing the print
6 job.

1 20. A printing system comprising:

2 (a) a printer having at least one user input key; and

3 (b) a computer connected to the printer over a network, the computer
4 including:

5 (b.1) apparatus for transmitting a print job to a printer;

6 (b.2) apparatus for automatically displaying on the computer an
7 image of the input key while the printer is processing the print job; and

8 (b.3) apparatus for responding to a selection of the image by
9 causing the printer to perform a pre-determined function.

1 21. The system of claim 20, wherein the printer is configured to
2 respond to a selection of the user input key by canceling the print job that is
3 presently being processed; and wherein the predetermined function includes
4 canceling the processing of the print job.

1 22. The system of claim 20, wherein the printer is configured to
2 respond to a selection of the user input key performing the pre-determined
3 function.